

COUNTRY Polish-occupied Germany

REPORT NO.

TOPIC 1. Soviet Officers' School in Jawer

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2. Soviet Tank Unit in Luben

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DATE OF CONTENT prior to February 1951

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DATE PREPARED 26 June 1952

REFERENCES

PAGES 3 ENCLOSURES (NO. &amp; TYPE)

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## Soviet Officers' School in Jawer.

1. Prior to January 1951, a Soviet officers' school was located in Jawer (O 52/B 90) in an old barracks installation situated on the northern perimeter of the town and west of the railroad station, which formerly housed an NCOW candidate school of the German Army. The installation, which was located on the west side of the thoroughfare to Liegnitz (O 52/B 82), included three billets, one kitchen building, one gymnasium and one ordnance and vehicle storeroom. It was controlled by a command agency in Liegnitz and frequently inspected by a general from that post. \*
2. Prior to October 1950, the school was commanded by a Soviet general, who was replaced by a colonel in October 1950. According to the service colors worn by the trainees, they belonged to various branches of service. They included an officer from Goerlitz (O 52/B 90) and another officer from the Polish-occupied section of East Prussia, both of whom were known to source. About 150 officers holding ranks from junior lieutenant up to major were trained at the school. The cadre personnel consisted of 50 to 60 Soviet soldiers. The courses of instruction opened on 1 October of every year and lasted one year. \*
3. Weapons and equipment observed at the school included four T-34/85 tanks, one IS-2/22 tank, another heavy tank, which was covered with canvas at all times, three 76.2 mm AT guns, three guns of 100 to 150 mm, an unidentified number of small short-barreled guns, four 120 mm mortars, an unidentified number of battery commander's telescopes and range finders; Studebaker trucks were used to tow the weapons.
4. Training emphasized classroom instruction. When working on electric lines, source observed, in one of the classrooms, a large, modern sand table equipped with a device to mark the bursts of shells by small bulbs. Training with the above mentioned weapons took place in the barracks yard. Combat training was held on the terrain north of the town. Prior to the termination of training, the heavy weapons course was moved to Neuhammer (O 52/B 34) for record firing.

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Soviet Engineer Unit and Soviet Headquarters in Jauer.

5. The barracks installation of a Soviet motorized engineer unit adjoined the officers' school to the west. The barracks installation, which was bounded by the railroad line to Liegnitz in the north, included four red billets, one kitchen, one motor-vehicle and ordnance storeroom and another small building. \*\*
6. The unit was commanded by a Soviet colonel. The size of the unit was estimated at 400 men. From 150 to 200 recruits arrived in the fall of every year. The soldiers wore epaulets mounting a metal device consisting of crossed pickaxes and a pair of dividers. \*\*
7. Small arms were the only weapons observed with the unit. The engineer equipment consisted of bridge-building equipment including 16 special-type trucks with pontoons. Besides, an unidentified number of assault boats was observed. Water practices were held northwest of the town on the Westende Neisse River. According to soldiers, bridge-building practices were also held on the Oder River.
8. The Soviet komendatura was located in a former hotel on the market place; a Soviet captain was in charge of the installation. An MVD agency was located about 400 meters north of the officers' school on the west side of the road to Liegnitz.

Polish Offices in Jauer.

9. The Polish militia district office was located in the eastern sector of the town on the north side of the thoroughfare to Striegau (P 51/H 09). The office of the town militia was located in the townhall on the market place. The Security Police (UB) district office was located in the same building as the militia district office.

Soviet Tank Unit in Lueben.

10. Prior to December 1950, the large barracks installation located on the northern perimeter of Lueben (G 52/B 84) was occupied to capacity by a Soviet tank unit. Heavy tanks and motor vehicles were occasionally observed near the installation. It was common knowledge among the population of the town that the unit was subordinate to a headquarters in Liegnitz. \*\*\*
11. Prior to late 1950, the former district insane hospital located northwest of the town was also occupied by Soviet soldiers. Motor vehicles were frequently observed in the billeting area. Source knew from hearsay that an MVD agency was located here. \*\*\*

Polish Offices in Lueben.

12. The Polish militia district office was located in the old townhall on the south side of the market place. The Security Police (UB) district office was located on a side street due east of the railroad station.

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13. Another woman resettler, who had still noticed, in early 1950, numerous Soviet soldiers in Lieben, believed that Soviet troops were no longer located in the town in February 1951. Source also knew that neither Soviet nor Polish troops were stationed at Haynau (O 52/P 72).

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\* [ ] Comment. According to previous reports, only one Soviet unit was located in Jauer in a barracks installation on the east side of Stalin Street. It is undetermined whether this unit is identical with one of the units mentioned in the present report. The officers' school seems to be controlled by the NCF.

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\*\* [ ] Comment. The unit is believed to be an army engineer battalion controlled by the NCF. Its engineer arms insignia shaped like the device mentioned in the present report are known.

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\*\*\* [ ] Comment. This is the first report to mention a military occupation of Lieben. Should source's statements be confirmed, the unit may be a tank regiment directly subordinate to the NCF.

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